

# SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 100

By Jackson

A RESOLUTION to designate a segment of Interstate 40 as the  
"Trooper Todd M. Larkins Memorial Highway."

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their own concerns to ensure our collective freedom and personal safety, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws; the enforcement of the law has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals who daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, the people of Tennessee are fortunate to be served by the brave and dedicated law enforcement officers who put their lives on the line while carrying out their essential duties; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Todd M. Larkins of the Tennessee Highway Patrol was one such outstanding public servant; citizens across the state and the members of the General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of his tragic and untimely death in the line of duty on July 8, 2005; and

WHEREAS, born on August 12, 1973, Trooper Larkins began his career with the Tennessee Highway Patrol on July 1, 2000; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Todd M. Larkins served with great distinction in both Maury and Dickson Counties, and throughout his years of meritorious service he earned the respect and admiration of his fellow troopers and a grateful public for his dedication and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, a five-year veteran of the Tennessee Highway Patrol, Trooper Larkins truly enjoyed being a law enforcement officer, and he evidenced uncommon dedication to his duties despite the long hours and the uncertain and often dangerous nature of his profession; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Larkins performed his appointed duties in an admirable manner that distinguished him as a credit to both his community and his profession; Tennessee was undoubtedly made a better and safer place to live during his service; and

WHEREAS, a great tragedy befell the State of Tennessee on the fateful day of July 8, 2005, when Trooper Larkins was mortally injured in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, a trusted member of his community, Trooper Larkins regarded his work as a trooper to be of the utmost significance, and he leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity, probity, and valor in his public life as a law enforcement officer, compassion and loyalty in his private life, and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Todd M. Larkins enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife and daughter; deeply devoted to and inspired by his loving family, Trooper Larkins always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this General Assembly should join all Tennesseans in remembering the bountiful life of this courageous trooper, dutiful public servant, and exceptional human being who made the ultimate sacrifice in the cause of public safety; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the segment of Interstate 40 in Dickson and Williamson Counties between mile markers 177 and 182 is hereby designated as the "Trooper Todd M. Larkins Memorial Highway" as a lasting tribute to an exemplary public servant who made the ultimate sacrifice of his life while protecting and serving his fellow citizens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the department of transportation is directed to erect suitable markers or to affix suitable signs designating such segment of Interstate Highway 40 in Dickson and Williamson Counties as the "Trooper Todd M. Larkins Memorial Highway". The cost of such signage shall be funded in accordance with § 54-1-133.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall become operative only if the federal highway administrator advises the commissioner of transportation in writing that the provisions of this resolution shall not render Tennessee in violation of federal laws and regulations and subject to penalties prescribed therein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the erection of such signs shall be within the guidelines prescribed by the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the commissioner of transportation.